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(CONTACT PH., EMAIL)**

**(NAME OF LIBRARY) JOINS DIGITAL REVOLUTION**

(CITY)---The (NAME OF LIBRARY) announced today that it is now a digital depository library for state government information. As a digital depository library, the (NAME OF LIBRARY) provides access to all state publications that are available in a digital format.

"We are delighted to be able to provide our patrons with unprecedented and immediate access to state government publications here in our very own library," said (NAME OF SPOKESPERSON WITH TITLE). "Our ability to provide digital access to this collection of material presents our patrons with the immediate ability to locate information that was previously difficult or impossible for them to access."

To become a digital depository library, the (NAME OF LIBRARY) worked with the Montana State Library to obtain access to links of digital state publications. PDF files of state publications may be viewed online, downloaded, saved, or printed.

"By becoming an official digital depository library for state publications, the (NAME OF LIBRARY) is providing a new level of service to its patrons," said Darlene Staffeldt. "The digital depository library program gives new meaning to the term 'open government' by making available all of the inner workings of Montana state government to any Montanan via their local library."

Currently, there are 14 digital depository libraries throughout Montana. Some of the materials that are now accessible to the general public include: state agency annual reports, employee statistics, historic Montana promotional material, environmental impact statements, newsletters, natural resource maps, etc.

"It is an exciting time in libraries," said Darlene Staffeldt, Montana State Librarian. "Technology allows us to serve patrons in ways that, just a few years ago, were completely unimaginable. We can now provide any library in the state access to our collection for use by their patrons. This will save Montanans time, money, and effort and help move the business of state government forward more quickly."

The (NAME OF LIBRARY) currently provides access to (# of digital state publications) state publications; the number of items in the digital collection will grow continuously as more and more state publications are digitized or added to the Montana State Library's collection in a digital format.

To access the digital depository collection, please visit the (NAME OF LIBRARY) or (PROVIDE OTHER WAYS PATRONS CAN ACCESS THE COLLECTION – THROUGH THE WEB SITE, ETC.) The (NAME OF LIBRARY) is located at (INCLUDE ADDRESS) and is open to patrons from (INCLUDE HOURS).

Through its statewide programs, the Montana State Library empowers Montanans; enhances learning in families and communities; builds 21st Century skills; and provides opportunities for civic participation. For more information, visit <http://msl.mt.gov>.

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